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An old landmark of Boston

Clara Louise Guild

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An Old Landmark of Boston.

One of the most interesting and well preserved landmarks of Boston, is the Old South Church.

The church is built on the corner of the estate of John Winthrop, which included the land on Walborough Street, from MilkSt to Spring Lane.

Washington Street between School and Summer Streets, in the early history of Boston, was called Walborough Street.

The history of the church may be given in a few words, which were inscribed⁵ on a tablet placed in front of the church, so that, as the people said, every one might learn it as they run.

The Old South Church was gathered	1669
First House built	1670
This House erected	1729
Desecrated by British Troops.	1775-6

It is called the richest church society but one in this country, although it stands, deserted by residences, in the midst of the business district of the city. Besides being

rich financially, it is rich historically. For looking at the records we find, that Benjamin Franklin was baptized in the first church. In the present building, the famous tea party met. Great speeches and orations have been delivered here, by equally great men, as Hancock, Warren, and T. Follen; and how Bury's troops set up a riding-school, in the church, is known by all.

The church is built of brick, painted, and if careful notice is taken, it will be seen that the bricks are laid, alternately, sideways and endwise, a number of the other old churches in Boston, such as the Park Street Church, are built in the same manner.

The interior of the church has not been changed very much, since erection. It was one of the last to retain the square pews, the elevated pulpit and sounding board. The upper gallery has been altered a little, the old organ replaced by a new one, and the ceiling slightly decorated.

When first erected, there were a number of true ~~surroundings~~ ^{surroundings} it, but now only one remains on Third Street. It seems very pleasant to have such an historical landmark, made

such good use of, by holding historical exhibitions there, and also exhibitions of inventions.

The removal or destruction has for a number of years been talked upon, and ^{now} ~~as~~ ^{one} other relic it will properly be destroyed.

(75)
28-2-82.

Clara L. Guild.
Feb. 28. 1882